



Integrated Testing at KSC between Constellation Systems

Tim Honeycutt

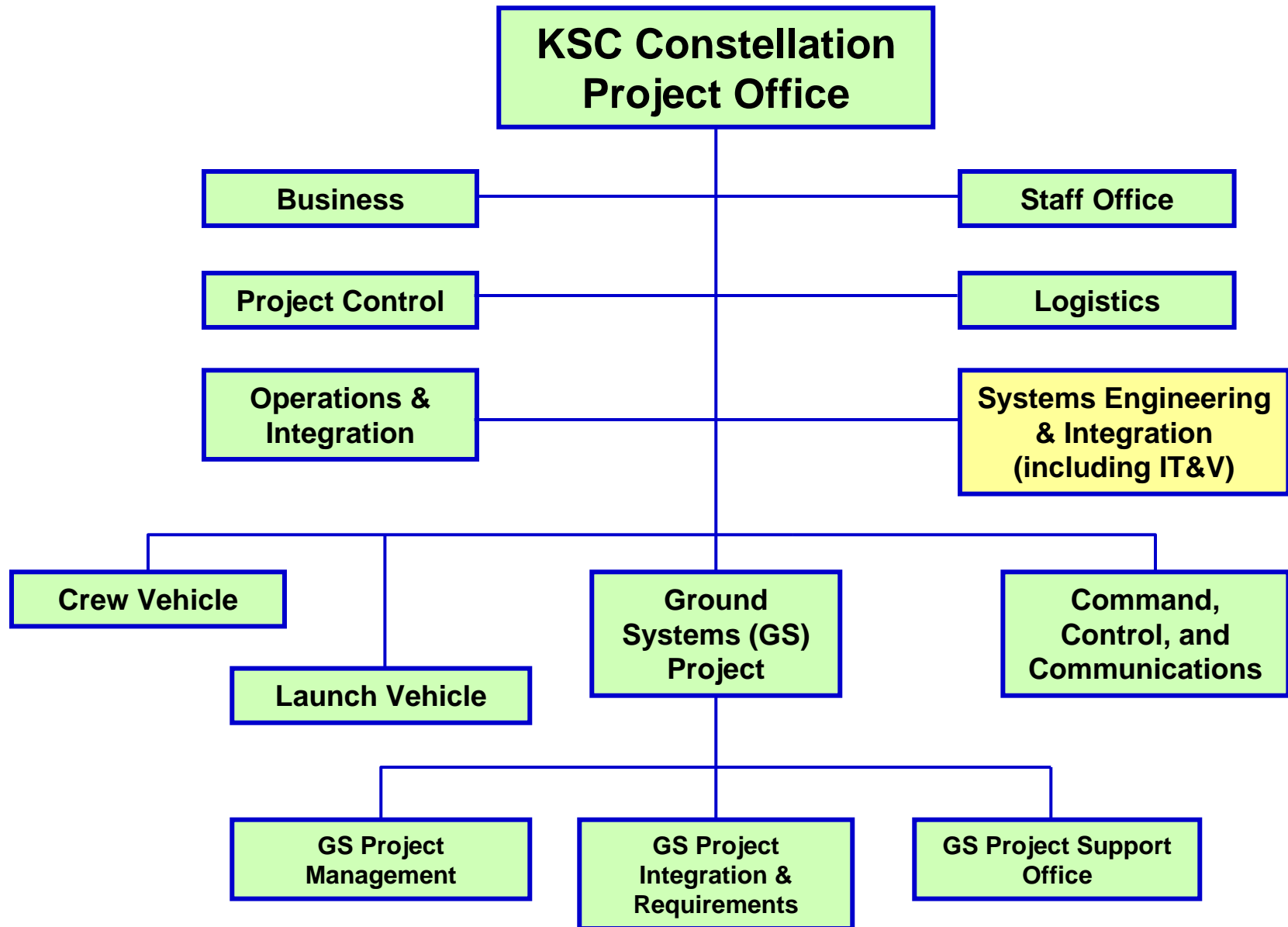
February 2008

Timothy.R.Honeycutt@nasa.gov

321-867-6567



KSC Constellation Project Office





Presentation Outline

- **History of Multi-Element Integration Tests (MEITs)**
 - MEIT Concept
 - Previous MEITs
 - Major Problems Found
 - Benefits
- **Integrated Testing at KSC for the Constellation Program**
 - Integrated Tests
 - Multi-Element Integrated Tests (MEITs)
 - Flight Element Integrated Tests (FEITs)
 - Integrated Verification Tests (IVTs)
- **Summary**



History

- **“Ship and shoot” was the strategy for the International Space Station Program (ISSP) during the early 1990’s**
 - It proposed transporting flight elements directly from the factory to the launch site and begin the mission without further testing.
 - Factory level testing and element interface verifications at the subsystem-level, and interface analysis were all that was planned.
- **Before the end of that decade a shift in testing strategy occurred within the ISSP**
 - The ISSP adopted a more integrated approach for ground validation of it’s flight hardware.
 - Availability of elements at the launch site created a feasible opportunity to test multiple elements together.
 - The notion of validation testing on the ground was presented and accepted by the ISSP due to the criticality of the on-orbit functionality, including safety concerns for the crew .



History (cont)

- **Multi Element Integration Tests (MEITs) and Integrated Systems Tests (ISTs)**
 - Risk mitigation tests performed on the ground, used for validating the operation of the flight elements and their systems in an environment that is as flight-like as possible.
 - These tests were used to demonstrate the interoperability and functionality of Space Station elements as integrated “in-space” assemblies on the ground before they were assembled in space for the first time.
 - Space Station element-to-element interface capability was verified as well as systems end-to-end operability with hardware and software.
 - Mission Sequence Testing (MST), also known as “end-to-end” integration testing, included a full-up configuration with the Mission Control Center, Tracking Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS), and the “station” operating on the ground.
 - Also verified limited on-orbit system compatibility.

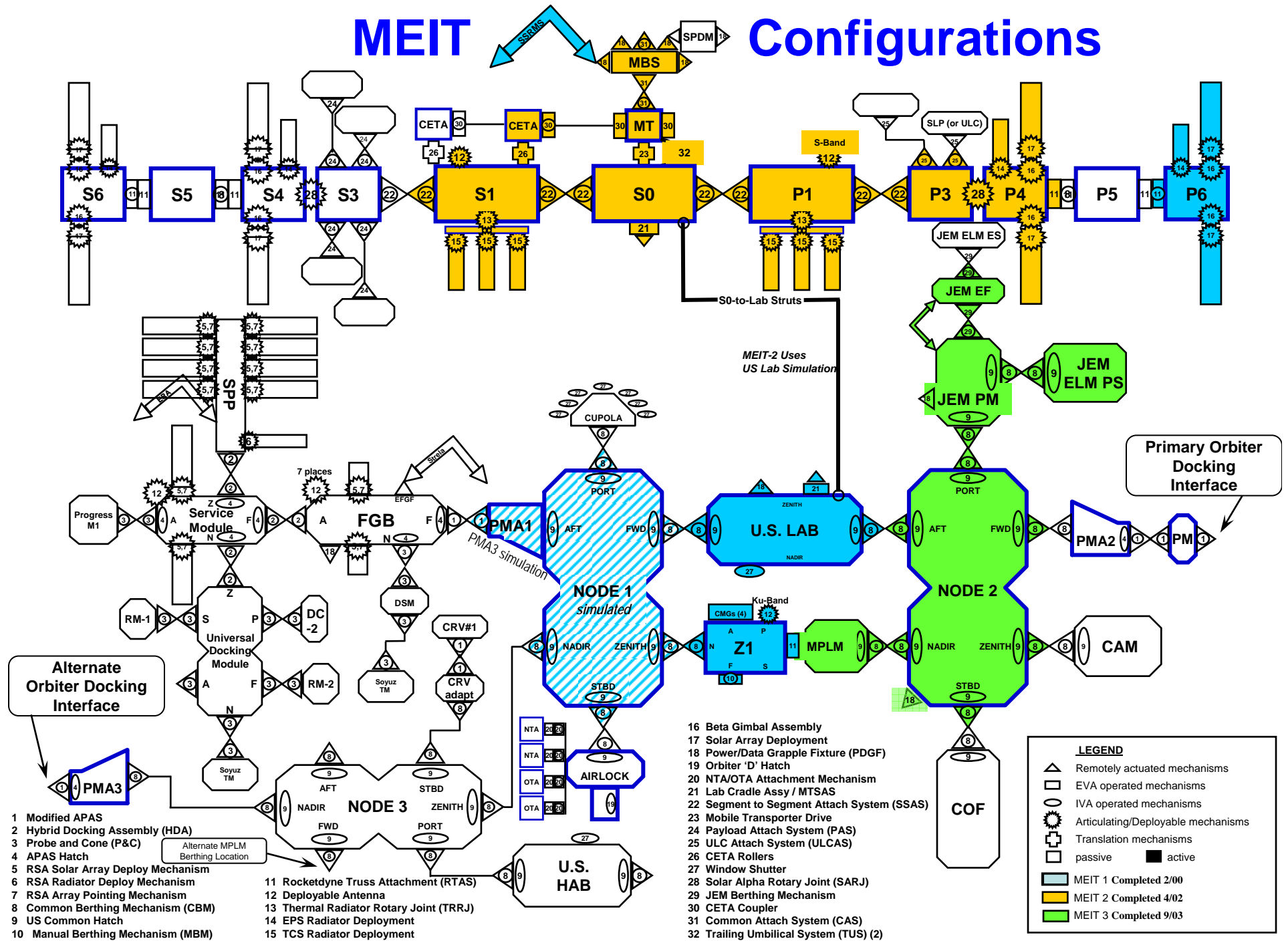


KSC ISS MEIT/IST Experience

- **Planned/developed and implemented the following for ISSP:**
 - MEIT1:
 - U.S. Lab, Z1, P6, SSRMS, Node1 (emulated)
 - MEIT2:
 - S0/MT/MBS, S1, P1, P3/4, US Lab (emulated)
 - MEIT3:
 - JEM, Node2, US Lab (emulated)
 - Node2 Systems Test
 - Node2, US LAB & Node1 (emulated)

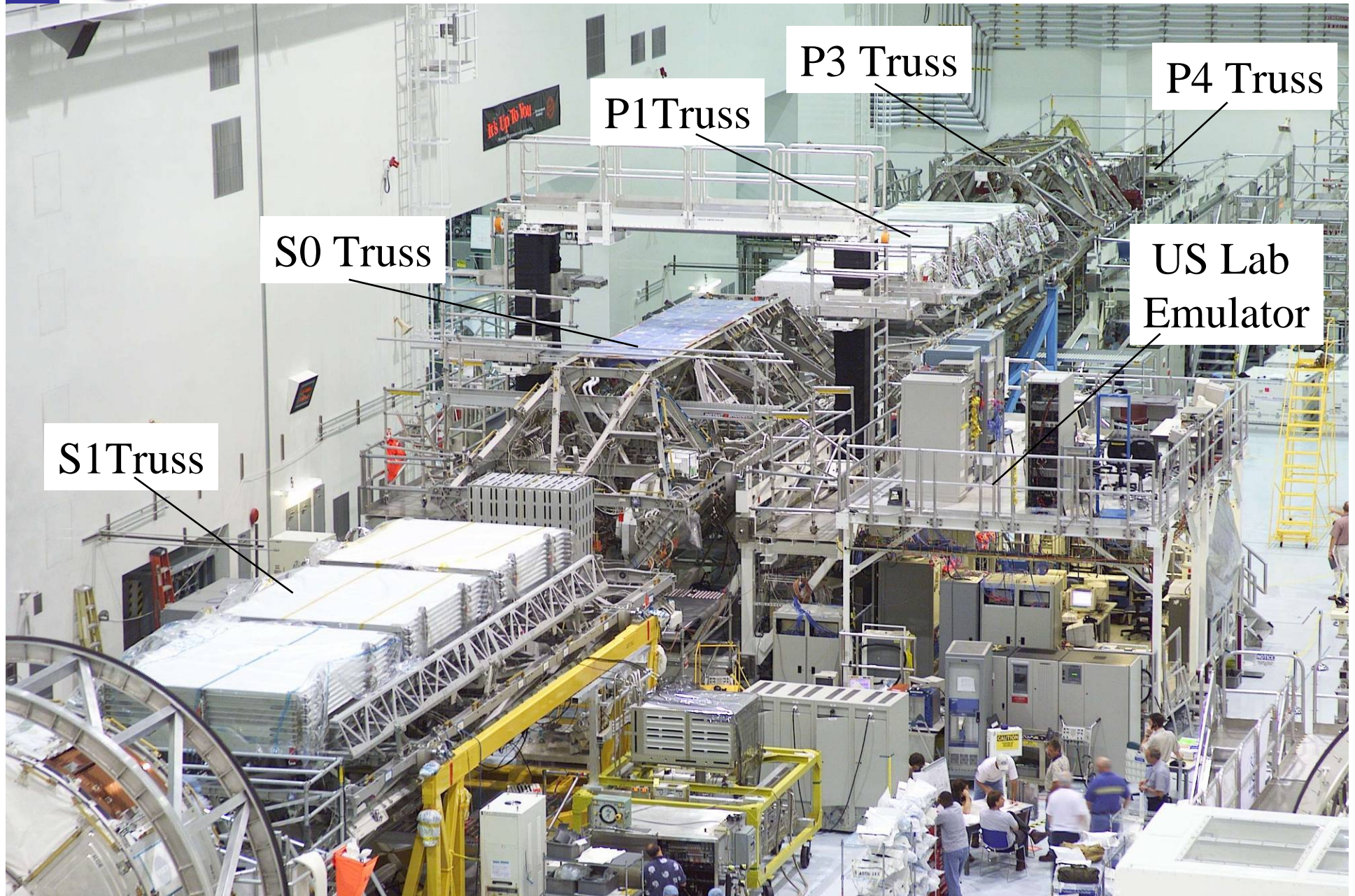
MEIT

Configurations





MEIT 2 Hardware at KSC





Problems Found in MEITs (Top Examples)

- P6 truss failed to power up due to Auxiliary Power Converter Unit (APCU) under voltage trip condition.
 - Impact: Unable to start P6 on Orbit.
- US Lab critical activation took 36 hours during the first MEIT Power-up (computer/procedure problems), Requirement <2 hrs. During MEIT regression Mission Sequence Test, Critical Activation took 1 hr, 15 minutes.
 - Impact: Loss of Lab element during on-orbit activation due to thermal loading.
- Command and Control (C&C) computers failed several times due to task overrun problems (CPU utilization problems).
 - Impact: Significant operational issues (Loss of Vehicle commanding, Vehicle health visibility, visibility to crew/ground) would occur because of continued loss of C&C computers.



Problems Found in MEITs (Top Examples) (continued)

- **Video lines were swapped between Trailing Umbilical Systems 1, 2 (NASA) and Mobile Base System (Canadian Space Agency).**
 - Impact: Significant operational impact to manually route video signals. Extra Vehicular Activity (EVA) would have been required to replace two harnesses to correct the problem.
- **C&C computers failed when performing synchronization to Global Positioning System (GPS) time.**
 - Impact: Loss of accurate GPS capability, degraded attitude control capability until development /testing and on-orbit upload of new software patch.
- **Quality of Space to Ground Audio was unacceptable.**
 - Impact: Operation and potential safety impact to crew due to lack of understanding between Crew/Ground.



MEIT Benefits

- **Significant findings from MEIT have created an opportunity to correct major operational problems which would have resulted in:**
 - Cost/Schedule Slip
 - Major milestone slippage in the Program
 - Critical On-orbit Operations impacts
 - Safety concerns for the crew
 - Loss of mission objectives
 - Loss of flight hardware
 - Nominal Operations impacts
 - Unknown operation risks (loss of redundancy capability)
 - Unplanned EVA's

The cumulative effect of identifying & resolving integrated hardware, software and procedure problems before flight has proven to save the International Space Station Program major on-orbit issues.

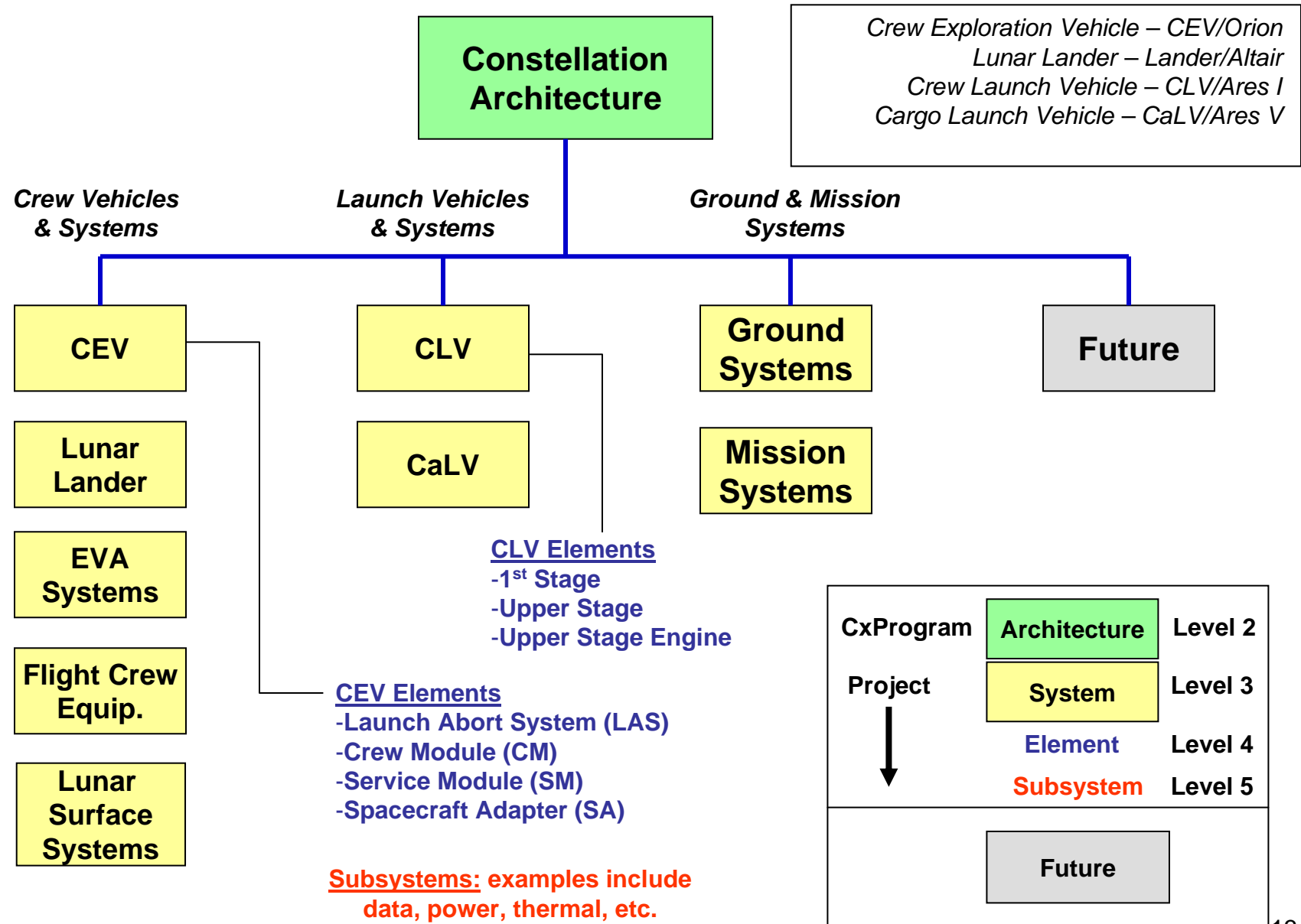


Integrated Testing at KSC for the Constellation Program (CxP)

- Testing that occurs between two or more individual Constellation Systems to verify the interfaces between those Systems and to validate the integrated Systems' functionality and interoperability.
- Includes testing mechanical, electrical, data and fluid interfaces.
- Integrated testing applies to the in-space flight and integrated vehicle stack configurations.
 - Multi-Element Integration Testing (MEIT)
 - Flight Element Integration Testing (FEIT)
 - Interface Verification Testing (IVT)



Constellation Architecture





Multi-Element Integration Test (MEIT)

MEIT:

- An integration test between two or more flight systems that will be launched on separate launch vehicles and integrated together for the first time in space.
 - Interfaces between the flight systems, mission systems, and other appropriate CxP/ISSP and external systems may be also tested as part of each MEIT.
- The primary objectives of MEIT are:
 - Demonstrate the interoperability, functionality, and stability of the flight systems, elements, and sub-systems as an integrated “in-space” vehicle assembly on the ground before they are assembled in space for the first time.
 - Validate critical mission sequence activities and flight procedures prior to their first-time execution in-flight.
- A secondary objective of MEIT is:
 - To collect functional and performance data from the integrated flight systems to support validation of the different interface test tool sets, emulators, and simulators used by the Projects in accepting future serial numbers of those flight systems.



MEIT (continued)

- MEIT serves as a training ground for:
 - Flight crews and trainers
 - Mission Operations Division (MOD)/Mission Control Center (MCC) personnel
 - Constellation system engineers
- MEITs are executed after all of the system-level requirements have been satisfied by the involved Project offices and those offices declare their system designs as verified for flight.
- MEITs are one time tests with a potential for a follow-on regression test.
 - Performed prior to first crewed missions
- Use of flight-like emulators and cables/connectors may be used when integration between the flight systems is not practical.
- Planned MEITs:
 - CEV to International Space Station (ISS) (using ISS emulation)
 - CEV to Lunar Lander/Earth Departure Stage (EDS) (using EDS emulation)



MEIT 1

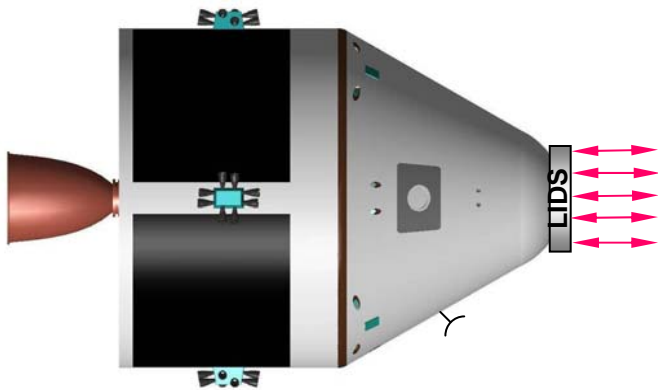
MEIT 1 Test Configuration (performed in the Multi-Payload Processing Facility)



MEIT 1: CEV to ISS (Emulator)

- **CEV-International Space Station (ISS) MEIT**
 - To be performed in the year 2012, prior to first ISS flight.
 - Tests interoperability/functionality and all functional interfaces: data, audio, video, RF, power.
 - End-to-end test with Mission Control performed via TDRSS.
 - Uses emulation in place of ISS flight hardware.
 - Mated with flight-like cables and connectors.

CEV



ISS Flight Emulator





CEV-ISS Interfaces

– Mechanical

- CxP will utilize newly developed Low Impact Docking System (LIDS)
- LIDS is not compatible with ISS Docking System (APAS: Androgynous Peripheral Attach System)
- CxP will construct two APAS To LIDS Adapter Segments (ATLAS)
- ATLAS will be installed permanently on Peripheral Mating Adapters (PMAs) 2 and 3
- Provides power and data pass through capability

– Power

- ISS will provide 120 VDC to CEV via two redundant power feeds
- CEV will convert 120 VDC ISS power to 28 VDC for internal buses

– Fluids/Gases

- Only requirements are for Inter Module Ventilation (IMV) air circulation – essentially same as for Shuttle orbiter



CEV-ISS Interfaces

– Avionics

- Audio, video, and data are distributed internally to CEV over a Gigabit Ethernet network
- CEV bus would connect to CxP provided Common Communications Adapter (CCA) which would provide conversion to legacy ISS networks.
 - CCA required for MIL-STD-1553 (ISS) and Gigabit Ethernet (CEV) data conversions
 - CCA installed on ISS
 - CCA or prototype would be integrated into ISS emulator and tested with CEV in MEIT
- Separate CEV to ISS S-Band RF link would be implemented for rendezvous/proximity ops



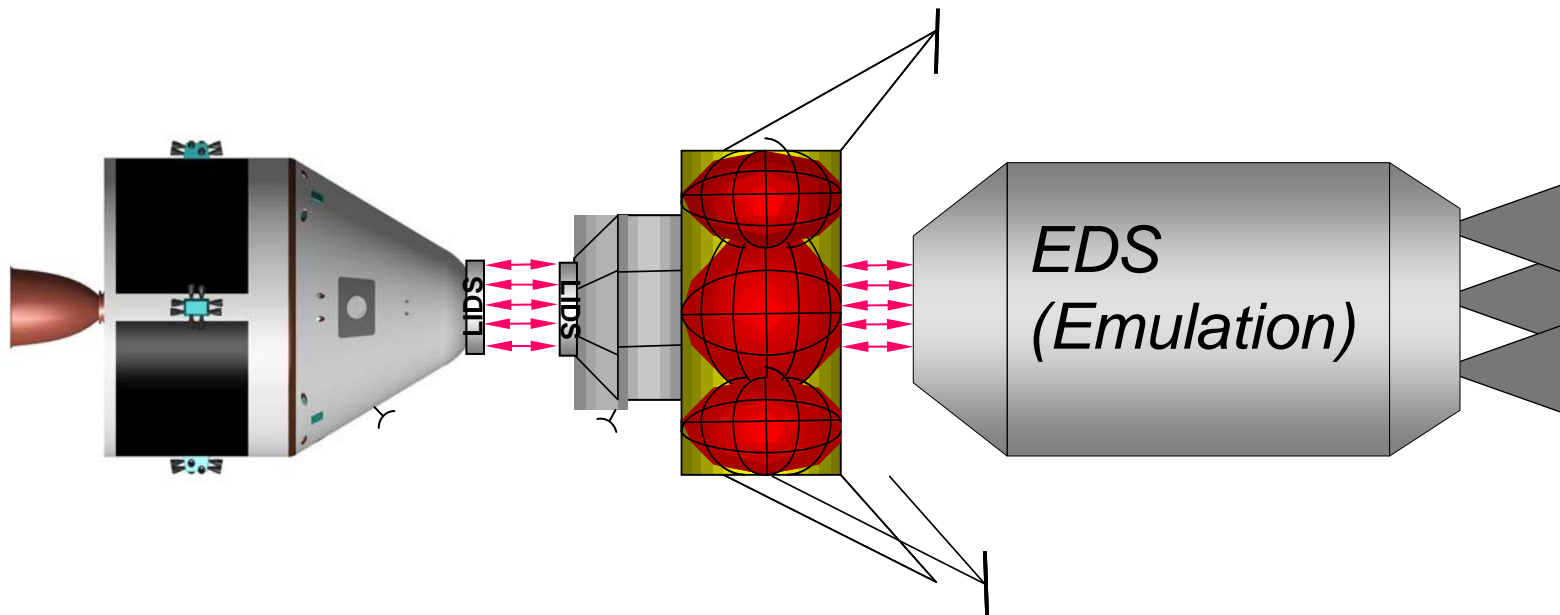
MEIT 2

MEIT 2 Test Configurations (TCs) (performed in the Space Station Processing Facility)



MEIT 2: Test Configuration #1 (TC1)

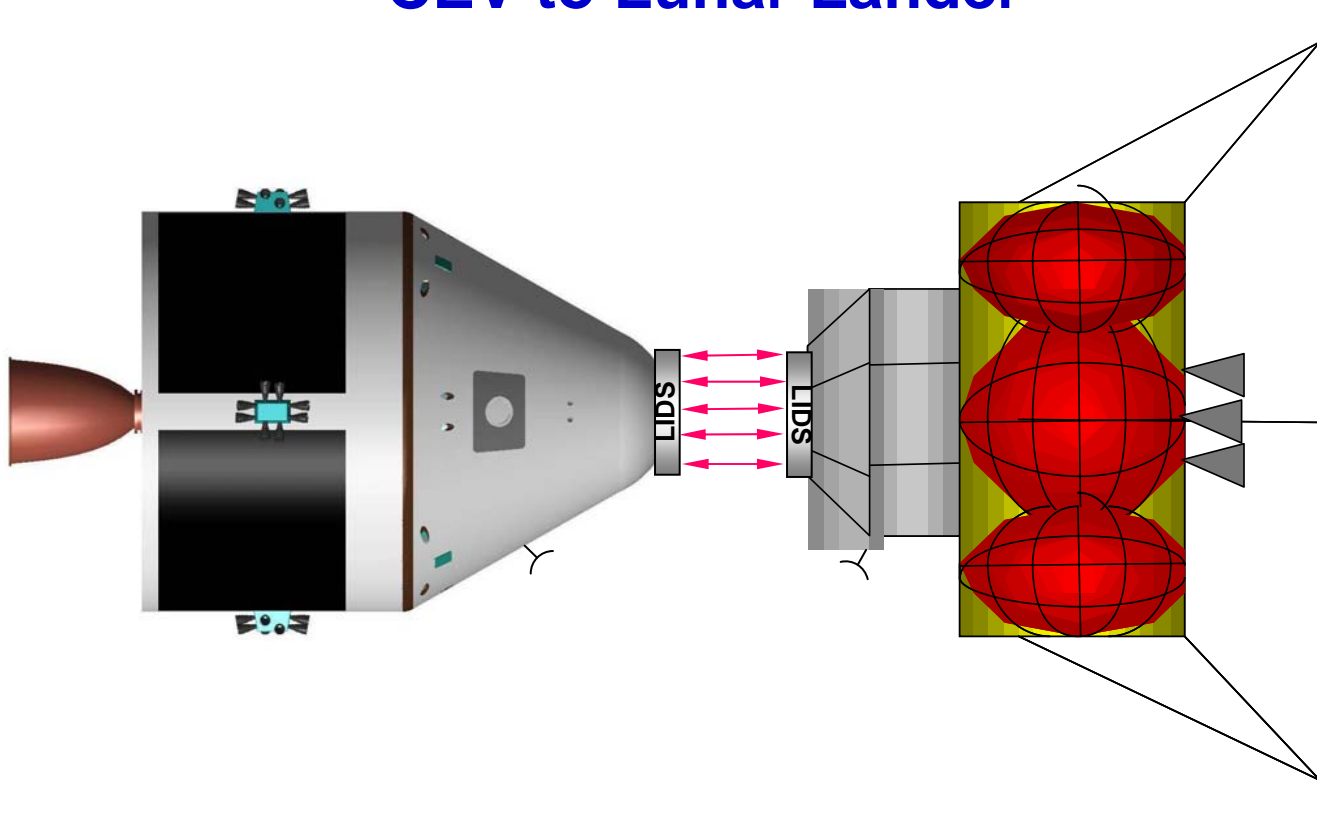
CEV to Lunar Lander with EDS Emulation





MEIT 2: Test Configuration #2 (TC2)

CEV to Lunar Lander





Flight Element Integration Test (FEIT)

FEIT:

- An integration test between the new or significantly modified systems and elements being assembled into an integrated launch vehicle for the first time.
 - Interfaces between the flight systems, ground systems, mission systems, and other appropriate CxP and external systems may be also tested as part of each FEIT.
- The primary objectives of the FEIT are:
 - Demonstrate the interoperability, functionality, and stability of the flight systems, elements, and sub-systems as an integrated “launch vehicle” assembly prior to the first operational test flight of that particular launch vehicle configuration.
 - Validate critical mission sequence activities and flight procedures prior to their first-time execution.
- A secondary objective of the FEIT is:
 - To collect functional and performance data from the integrated flight systems to support validation of the different interface test tool sets, emulators, and simulators used by the Projects in accepting future serial numbers of those flight systems.



FEIT (continued)

- FEITs are executed after all of the system-level requirements have been satisfied by the involved Project offices and those offices declare their system designs as verified for flight.
- FEITs are planned and scheduled as part of the assembly and preparation of the integrated launch vehicle.
- FEITs are currently planned for every test flight (except for Ares 1-X).
- Planned FEITs:
 - CEV/CLV
 - Lunar Lander/EDS/CaLV



FEIT 1

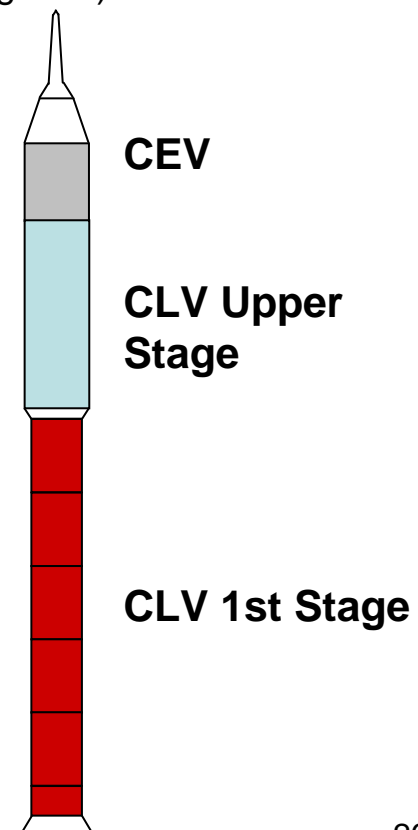
FEIT 1 Test Configuration (performed in the Vehicle Assembly Building)



FEIT 1 – Ares 1 Launch Vehicle Stack



- **Test Configuration:**
 - CEV/CLV Integrated Stack
 - Ground Systems
 - Missions Systems
 - SCaN (Space Communications and Navigation)



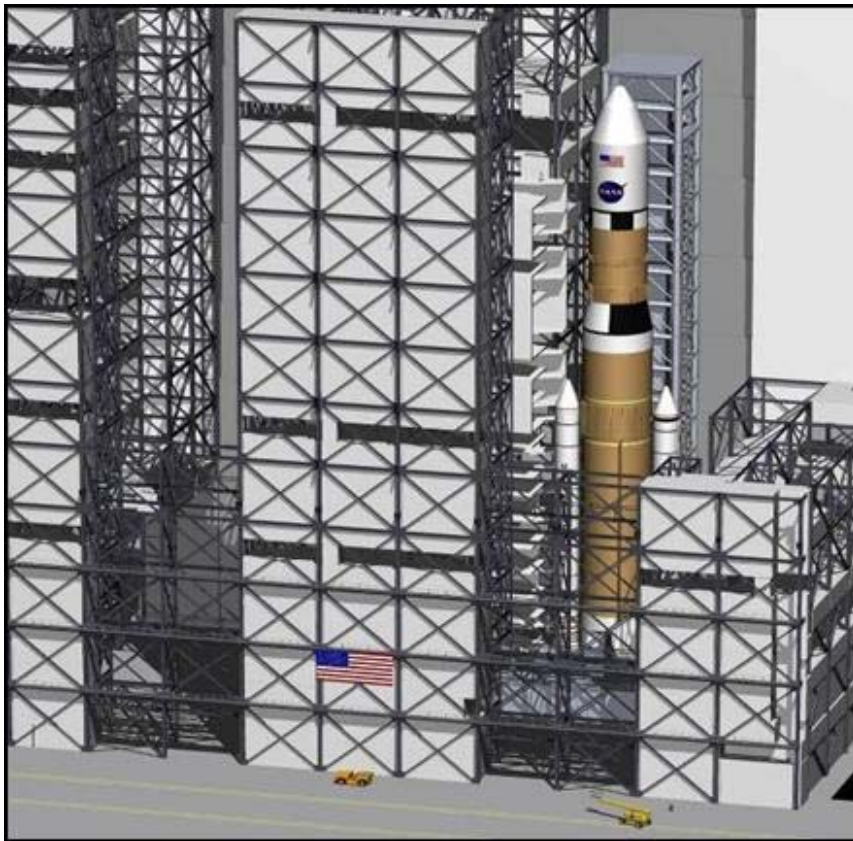


FEIT 2

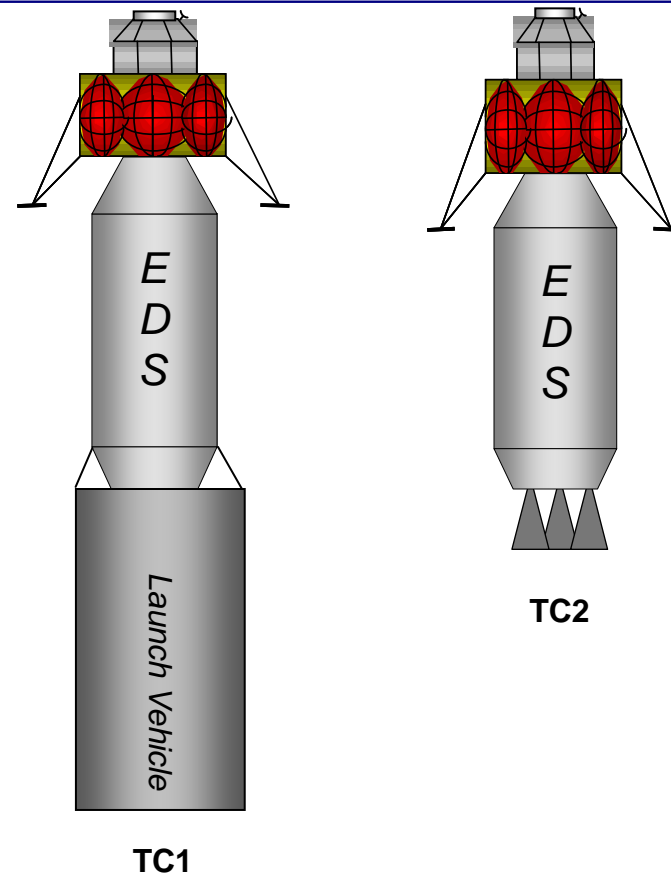
FEIT 2 Test Configurations (TCs) (performed in the Vehicle Assembly Building)



FEIT 2 – Ares V Launch Vehicle Stack



- **Test Configurations:**
 - Lunar Lander/EDS/CaLV (TC1)
 - Integrated Stack
 - Lunar Lander/EDS (TC2)
 - On-orbit Configuration



- **Both test configurations include:**
 - Ground Systems
 - Missions Systems
 - SCan (Space Communications and Navigation)



Interface Verification Testing (IVT)

- Interface Verification Testing (IVT) verifies the mechanical and/or electrical interfaces between two or more flight systems after these systems have been mated.
- IVT consists of the minimal set of activities to verify the integrity of all physical and functional interfaces between the systems involved for each specific vehicle stack configuration.
- IVTs are performed as a subset of the FEITs during the flight tests and then performed for every flight after Full Operational Capability (FOC) has been obtained with the flight and ground Systems.
- Performed in the Vehicle Assembly Building.
- MEITs/FEITs would be required if any significant design upgrades or modifications have occurred.



Summary

- Based on the previous success of MEITs for the International Space Station Program, these type of integrated tests have also been planned for the Constellation Program:
 - MEIT
 - CEV to ISS (emulated)
 - CEV to Lunar Lander/EDS (emulated)
 - Future: Lunar Surface Systems and Mars Missions
 - FEIT
 - CEV/CLV
 - Lunar Lander/EDS/CaLV
 - IVT
 - Performed as a subset of the FEITs during the flight tests and then performed for every flight after Full Operational Capability (FOC) has been obtained with the flight and ground Systems.

"Standing alone, components may function adequately, and failure modes may be anticipated. Yet when components are integrated into a total system and work in concert, unanticipated interactions can occur that can lead to catastrophic outcomes." (Columbia Accident Investigation Report (CAIB) Report 2003)